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Letter dated 16 August 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 16 August 2012, addressed to you by Hilmi Akil, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hüseyin **Müftüoğlu**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 16 August 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter, dated 11 July 2012, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/66/868-S/2012/536), which yet again contains typical assertions of violations of "international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus", and to bring to your kind attention the following.

In response to such presumptuous allegations, I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. It must be stated that assertions of so-called violations of air traffic regulations are invalid, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services.

As noted in our previous letters, such contentions are based on the false and unlawful claim that the sovereignty of Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This presumptuous contention by the Greek Cypriot side ignores the present realities on the island of Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent, self-governing States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

Continuing attempts by the Greek Cypriot side, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal administration will be futile, since the Turkish Cypriot people will never give in to its unjust demands. What would indeed be conducive to a better atmosphere on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop misappropriating for itself the rights and responsibilities that it does not legally have, and to cease its hostile and derogatory acts against the Turkish Cypriot people.

Moreover, the Greek Cypriot administration should be reminded that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey, and that its insistent denial of the Turkish Cypriot rights in the North of the island does not bode well for the prospects of a lasting settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters, namely, a partnership based on a bizonal, bi-communal federation with the political equality of the two Constituent States.

I would like to put on record once again that, despite the Greek Cypriot leadership's apparent lack of enthusiasm for compromise and its denial of the equal partnership rights of the Turkish Cypriots on the island, the Turkish Cypriot side is ready and doing its best for achieving a settlement in the form of a new partnership which will be in line with the established United Nations parameters and body of work.

(*Signed*) Hilmi **Akil**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus